

### **III. REMARKS**

#### **Status of the Claims**

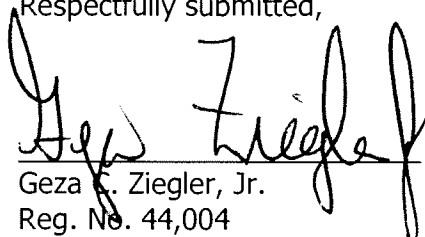
New claim 21 is added. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-21 are presented for further consideration.

The arguments previously presented apply equally to new claim 21.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.  
Reg. No. 44,004

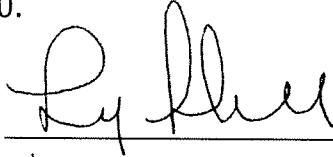
4 August 2006  
Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited transmitted electronically, on the date indicated below, addressed to the Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 4 August 2006

Signature:   
Lisa Shimizu  
Person Making Deposit